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CHAPTER 412

INDUSTRIAL LOAN COMPANIES

S. F. 132

AN ACT to regulate industrial loan companies, to define and provide for the licensing of such businesses, to specify the powers of industrial loan companies, to prescribe penalties and to provide for the administration and enforcement of this Act.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

- SECTION 1. Title. This Act may be referred to as the "Iowa In-2 dustrial Loan Law".
- SEC. 2. Definitions. The following words and terms when used in this Act shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly 3 requires a different meaning:

1. "Corporation" shall mean any corporation for pecuniary profit

organized under the laws of the state of Iowa;

- 2. "License" shall mean a permit or authorization issued or required under the provisions of this Act to make loans in accordance with this Act at a single location or place of business;
- 3. "Licensee" shall mean a corporation to which a license has been issued;

4. "Auditor" shall mean the auditor of the state of Iowa;

- 11 5. "Industrial Loan Company" shall mean a corporation operating 12 13 under the provisions of this Act and engaged in the business of loaning 14 money to be repaid in one (1) payment or in weekly, monthly or other periodic installments and the charging, receiving or requiring of inter-15 est, discount, fees, compensation or charges of whatever nature or kind 16 for the use of such money and for the services to be rendered to the 17 borrower in connection with the loan. The term "Industrial Loan 18 Company" shall not include those businesses specifically exempted in 19 20 section five (5) of this Act.
 - SEC. 3. License. No corporation shall engage in the business of 2 operating an "Industrial Loan Company" in the state of Iowa without 3 first having obtained a license from the auditor of the state of Iowa.
 - Limitations. No license shall be issued to any individual, partnership, non-profit organization or unincorporated association. 3 Not more than one (1) place of business where loans are made shall 4 be maintained under the same license but the auditor may issue more than one (1) license to the same licensee upon compliance, for each 5 such additional license, with all the provisions of this Act governing an original issuance of a license. 6 7
 - SEC. 5. Exemptions. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to businesses organized or operating as permitted under the authority of 3 any law of this state, or of the United States, relating to banks, trust companies, building and loan associations, savings and loan associations, insurance companies, small loan companies organized under the provisions of chapter five hundred thirty-six (536) of the Code, or 7 credit unions; nor shall the provisions of this Act apply to persons, firms or corporations that make no loans excepting on notes secured by first mortgages on real estate, nor shall the provisions of this Act

- apply to licensed real estate brokers or salesmen, persons or corporations engaged exclusively in the business of purchasing commodity financing or commercial paper, pawn brokers or persons engaged in
- financing or commercial paper, pawn brokers or persons engaged in the mercantile business. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to loans made to any domestic or foreign corporation.
 - SEC. 6. Administration. The auditor of the state of Iowa is hereby invested with the power, authority and duty to supervise the operation of industrial loan companies in the state of Iowa in accordance with the provisions of this Act.
- Application for License. Applications for licenses to en-1 SEC. 7. gage in the business of operating industrial loan companies shall be in 2 3 writing on such forms as may be prescribed by the auditor. The application shall give the name of the corporation, the location where the business is to be conducted, the street address of the place of business, the names and addresses of the officers and directors of the corporation 7 and such other relevant information as the auditor shall require. At the time of making such application the applicant shall pay to the 9 auditor the sum of fifty (50) dollars to cover the cost of the investiga-10 tion of the applicant. The applicant shall also pay to the auditor the sum of fifty (50) dollars as an annual license fee for the period ending 11 December 31st next following the application; provided that if the license is granted after June 30th in any year, the license fee for the remainder of that year shall be twenty-five (25) dollars and any 12 13 14 license fee paid by the applicant in excess of that amount shall be 15 16 refunded by the auditor.
- Capital Stock Requirement. The paid in capital stock of any corporation engaged in the business of operating an industrial 3 loan company shall not be less than twenty-five thousand (25,000) dollars when the corporation is transacting business in any city or town having less than twenty-five thousand (25,000) inhabitants ac-5 cording to the last preceding decennial census. The paid in capital 6 stock of any corporation engaged in the business of operating an in-7 dustrial loan company in any city having a population of more than twenty-five thousand (25,000) inhabitants according to the last preceding decennial census shall not be less than fifty thousand (50,000) 10 dollars. The paid in capital stock of any corporation engaged in the 11 business of operating an industrial loan company outside the limits of 12 any incorporated city or town shall not be less than fifty thousand 13 (50,000) dollars. Every corporation engaged in the industrial loan 14 business in the state of Iowa shall have a surplus of not less than ten 15 16 (10) percent of its paid in capital stock.
 - SEC. 9. Investigation of Application. Upon the filing of an application for a license to engage in the business of operating an industrial loan company, and upon payment of the investigation fee and license fee as required by section seven (7) of this Act, the auditor shall cause an investigation to be made of the facts set forth in the application. If as the result of his preliminary investigation the auditor deems it proper, the auditor may hold a hearing at a time and place designated by him for the purpose of completing his investigation.

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Issuance of License. If the auditor shall find:

1. That the financial responsibility, experience, character and general fitness of the applicant and of the officers thereof are such as to command the confidence of the community, and to warrant the belief that the business will be operated honestly, fairly and efficiently within the purpose of this Act;

2. That a reasonable necessity exists for a new industrial loan com-

pany in the community to be served;

3. That the applicant has available for the operation of the business at the specified location paid in capital and surplus as required by section eight (8) of this Act; and

4. That the applicant is a corporation organized for pecuniary profit

under the laws of the state of Iowa.

14 The auditor shall approve the application and issue to the applicant 15 a license to engage in the industrial loan business in accordance with 16 the provisions of this Act. The auditor shall approve or deny an application for a license within one hundred twenty (120) days from the 18 date of the filing of such application.

SEC. 11. Denial of License. If the auditor shall not approve the application, he shall prepare a written denial of the application with a written finding of facts which shall be sent by certified mail to the applicant. Within fifteen (15) days after mailing of notice of the denial of its application, the applicant may file with the auditor a written demand for a hearing on the application. Upon such demand being made, the auditor must within thirty (30) days hold a formal hearing at his office in Des Moines, Iowa, notice of the time of which hearing shall be given by the auditor to the applicant by mail within fifteen (15) days after the filing of the written demand by the applicant. Notice of the time and place of hearing shall also be given by the auditor to all corporations holding licenses to engage in the industrial loan business in the county where the applicant proposes to establish its business and notice of said time and place of hearing shall be published pursuant to section six hundred eighteen point fourteen (618,14) of the Code.

At the formal hearing after the original denial of the license by the auditor the applicant shall be entitled to present evidence in support of his application. The auditor shall then grant or deny the application for a license within thirty (30) days from the date of the formal hearing and give notice to the applicant by a decision and finding of facts in writing. If the application for a license is disapproved and a license is denied the auditor shall refund the annual license fee which was required to be deposited by section seven (7) of this Act providing the cost of investigation does not exceed the license fee after the state auditor has deducted the cost of investigation. In no case can the cost of investigation exceed the license fee and if the cost of investigation is less than the license fee, the surplus shall be refunded to the applicant.

The decision and finding of facts of the auditor shall not become final if any applicant within thirty (30) days from issuance of such decision and finding of facts, shall appeal to the district court of Polk County. Iowa. The district court shall have power to enter such orders

- 34 as justice shall require, and shall set aside the decision of the auditor 35 if it is found that:
- 36 1. The auditor acted arbitrarily, capriciously or in excess of his 37 power.
 - 2. The decision was obtained by fraud.
 - 3. The decision was contrary to law.
- SEC. 12. Continuing License Annual Fee Change of Location.

 Each such license shall remain in full force and effect until surrendered, revoked, or suspended. Every licensee shall, on or before the second day of January, pay to the auditor the sum of fifty (50) dollars as an annual license fee for the succeeding calendar year. When a licensee shall change its place of business from one location to another in the same city or town it shall at once give written notice thereof to the auditor who shall attach to the license in writing his record of the change and the date thereof, which shall be authority for the operation of such business under such license at the new place of business.
 - SEC. 13. Books and Records. Each industrial loan company shall keep such books, accounts and records as will enable the auditor to determine whether or not the licensee is complying with the provisions of this Act. Industrial loan companies shall not be required to preserve or keep their records or files for a longer period than eleven (11) years next after the first day of January of the year following the time of the making or filing of such records or files.
 - SEC. 14. Annual Report. Each licensee shall annually on or before the fifteenth day of March file with the auditor a report in writing showing the results of the operation of its industrial loan business for the previous calendar year, which report shall contain:

1. A balance sheet showing all assets and liabilities as of the thirty-

6 first day of December next preceding.
7 2. An operating statement showing

2. An operating statement showing income, expenses and net profit for the previous calendar year.

3. Such other relevant information as the auditor shall reasonably

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The report shall be verified under oath by the president and secretary of the corporation. The auditor shall make and publish annually an analysis and recapitulation of such reports.

Examination of Licensees. The auditor or his duly authorized representative shall, at least once each year without previous 2 3 notice, examine and audit the books, accounts and records of each licensee engaged in the industrial loan business as defined by this Act. Any licensee, in lieu of such examination and audit by the auditor or his duly authorized representative, at the option of the auditor, may be audited at the expense of the licensee by a certified public accountant licensed to practice in the state of Iowa. After receiving such an audit the auditor may make such further examination of the licensee as he may deem necessary. A record of each examination shall be kept 10 11 in the auditor's office. Such examinations and reports, and other information connected therewith, shall be kept confidential in the office 12of the auditor and shall not be subject to publication or disclosure to 13 others except as in this chapter provided. Any evidence of criminal

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- acts committed by officers, directors or employees of any industrial loan association shall be reported by the auditor to the proper authorities. The licensee shall be charged and shall pay the actual costs of the examination.
- Cease and Desist Orders. Whenever the auditor has reasonable cause to believe that any licensee is violating any provision of this Act, he may, aften ten (10) days advance written notice, in addi-3 tion to all actions provided for in this Act, and without prejudice thereto, enter an order requiring such licensee to cease, desist and 6 refrain from such violation. After receipt of the advance written notice as provided above, any licensee, within five (5) days from the 8 receipt of such notice may file with the auditor a written demand for a hearing. Such hearings shall promptly be held in the office of the auditor and no cease and desist order shall be issued until after the 9 10 hearing during which the licensee shall be entitled to present evidence 11 12 and the testimony of witnesses.
 - SEC. 17. Injunctions. The auditor by counsel of the attorney general may commence an action in any court of competent jurisdiction, in the name of the state of Iowa as plaintiff on the relation of such auditor to restrain and enjoin any licensee from violating the provisions of this Act or to restrain and enjoin any person, co-partnership, firm or corporation from engaging in the business of operating an industrial loan company without obtaining a license as required by this Act.
 - SEC. 18. Revocation or Suspension of License. The auditor, upon giving ten (10) days advance written notice to the licensee by certified mail stating his contemplated action and the grounds thereof, and after giving the licensee an opportunity to be heard, may by order in writing suspend or revoke any license issued under the provisions of this Act, if the auditor shall find:
 - 1. That the licensee has failed to pay the annual license fee required by this Act.
 - 2. That the licensee knowingly has violated any of the provisions of this Act.
 - 3. That the licensee has refused to submit to the examination required by this Act.
 - 4. That the licensee has neglected or refused for a period of more than thirty (30) days to pay a final judgment rendered against it in the courts of this state.
 - 5. That the licensee has become insolvent.

No suspension, revocation, relinquishment or expiration of any license shall invalidate, impair or affect the legality of obligations of any pre-existing contracts, or prevent the enforcement and collection thereof; and provided further that any such suspension or revocation shall not become final if any licensee, within thirty (30) days from entry of such order suspending or revoking its license appeals to the district court of Polk County, Iowa.

The district court of Polk County, Iowa, shall have the power to enter such order as justice shall require pending the hearing of such appeal, and shall set aside the order or decision of the auditor if it be found that:

27 found that:

- 28 1. The auditor acted arbitrarily, capriciously or in excess of his power.
 - 2. The order or decision was obtained by fraud.
 - 3. The order or decision is contrary to law.

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- SEC. 19. Receivership—Liquidation. If the auditor shall revoke the license of any industrial loan company he shall promptly report the revocation to the attorney general of Iowa who may apply to the district court of the county in which the licensee had conducted its business for the appointment of a receiver to take possession of the assets of the corporation for the purpose of liquidating its affairs.
- SEC. 20. Advertising. No industrial loan company shall advertise, print, display, publish, distribute, broadcast or disseminate in any manner or cause or permit to be advertised, printed, displayed, published, distributed, or broadcast in any manner whatsoever, any false, misleading or deceptive statements or representations concerning rates, terms or conditions under this chapter. Violations of any of the provisions of this paragraph shall be punishable as provided in section seven hundred thirteen point twenty-four (713.24) of the Code.
- SEC. 21. Other Business in Same Office. A licensee engaged in the business of operating an industrial loan company under the provisions of this Act may not conduct its business within any office, room, suite or place of business in which any other business is engaged in or conducted, unless specifically authorized to do so in writing by the auditor upon his finding that the character of the other business is such that its operation by the licensee would not facilitate evasions of this Act or any other statute of the state of Iowa relating to the making of loans.
- SEC. 22. Thrift Certificates. Licensed industrial loan companies may sell thrift certificates, installment thrift certificates, certificates of indebtedness, promissory notes or similar evidences of indebtedness. The total amount of such thrift certificates, installment thrift certificates, certificates of indebtedness, promissory notes or similar evidences of indebtedness outstanding and in the hands of the general public shall not at any time exceed ten (10) times the total amount of capital, surplus, undivided profits and subordinated debt that gives priority to such securities of the issuing industrial loan company. The sale of such securities shall be subject to the provisions of chapter five hundred two (502) of the Code, and shall not be construed to be exempt therefrom by reason of the provisions of subparagraphs seven (7) and eight (8) of section five hundred two point four (502.4), Code 1962.
- SEC. 23. Powers of Industrial Loan Companies. No industrial loan company licensed under the provisions of this Act shall have the power and authority to:
- 1. Charge, receive or collect interest at a rate greater than that authorized by section five hundred thirty-five point two (535.2) of the Code, except that the interest may be computed when the note is made on the full amount of the cash advanced on the loan from the date of the note to the date of the final installment thereof, and the interest so computed may be included in the note, notwithstanding any agreement

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to pay the entire amount in installments; or the interest may be computed on the amount of the note and discounted or collected in advance when the loan is made, notwithstanding any agreement to pay the entire amount in installments. If the note is repayable in other than equal monthly installments, the interest may be an amount computed on the basis of the effective rates permitted as provided above; provided, however, there shall be no compounding of interest and when an interest rate as authorized herein is advertised, or negotiated for with a prospective borrower, with intent that it be computed by either of the two methods authorized herein, they being the "add on" method or the "discount" method, in such case such rate shall be further described as to the method of computation to be used.

2. Charge, receive or collect in advance a service charge in excess of one (1) dollar for each fifty (50) dollars of the amount of the note, nor in excess of a total of forty (40) dollars. The service charge authorized by this section shall not be charged, contracted for, collected or received on any loan which is renewed or rewritten within six (6) months of the date of the original note; nor on that part of a new loan made to the same borrower by the same company which is used to discharge a prior loan made to the same borrower by the same com-

pany.

3. Charge or collect from the borrower or borrowers a delinquency charge in excess of five (5) percent of any installment or portion thereof which is past due and not paid within ten (10) days after its scheduled due date. There shall be only one delinquency charge on any one such installment. Such delinquency charge may be collected when

due or at any time thereafter.

4. Charge or collect from the borrower or borrowers a deferment charge unless the payment due date on all unpaid installments, on which no delinquency charge has been collected, is deferred sixty (60) days or more, in which event an industrial loan company may charge and collect a deferment charge not in excess of one (1) percent of the balance of the loan at the time of deferment. There shall be only one

deferment charge on any one loan.

5. Require any borrower to purchase insurance from the lender as a condition for obtaining a loan. However, an industrial loan company may collect from the borrower, at the option of the borrower, and transmit the premiums charged for insuring real or personal property used by the borrower as security for a loan and provided that such insurance is obtained from a licensed insurance agent for an insurance company authorized to do business in Iowa; and the premiums charged for insuring the life of one party on the loan in an amount not to exceed the total amount of the note or contract, including cash advance, interest and service charge, provided that no licensee shall require that the contract of life insurance be outstanding for more than the unpaid balance of the indebtedness and provided that such insurance is obtained from a licensed insurance agent for an insurance company authorized to do business in Iowa; and an industrial loan company may receive and transmit the premiums charged for accident and health insurance on the borrower, provided such insurance bears a reasonable relationship to the existing hazards or risk of loss, and the aggregate benefits of which shall not exceed the approximate

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amount of the contractual payments on the loan outstanding at the time of loss, and provided that such insurance is obtained from a licensed agent for an insurance company authorized to do business in Iowa. However, all life insurance rates in connection with industrial loans shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the insurance commissioner of the state of Iowa.

6. Collect from the borrower fees in excess of those actually paid to a public official for recording or filing a mortgage or for satisfying a judgment or lien on any real or personal property securing a loan, however, a licensee may collect the actual cost for the appraisal of real or personal property offered by the borrower as security for a loan, and may collect from the borrower a reasonable attorney's fee paid for an opinion as to the title to real property securing a loan. Industrial loan companies licensed under the provisions of this Act may purchase notes, contract, mortgages, accounts, receivables, leases and securities of a type and kind authorized by the auditor.

7. Loan money to any person without setting out in the contract of loan, or by separate statement delivered at the time said loan is made, an itemized list that shall set out separately all interest, discount, fees, compensation or charges made, pertaining to such loan. Such interest or discount shall be expressed in terms of simple annual interest in percentage form or in total dollars computed on the basis that payments on such instrument will be made at the scheduled times; and for a year in case such loan does not have a specified time or times of payment.

SEC. 24. No industrial loan and investment company shall induce or permit any person, nor any husband and wife, jointly or severally, to become obligated, directly or contingently or both, under more than one contract of loan at the same time for the purpose of obtaining a higher rate of charge than would be permitted if all of the obligations of such person to such company were consolidated into one obligation.

SEC. 25. **Restrictions.** No industrial loan company licensed under this Act shall make any loan of money or property to, or guarantee the obligations of, any of its directors or officers; or loan to any borrower, other than a subsidiary or affiliated corporation, more than twenty (20) percent of its total capital, surplus and undivided profits. No licensee shall make any loan under any other name or at any other place of business than that named in the license.

SEC. 26. **Prepayment.** Notwithstanding the provisions of any note or contract to the contrary, a borrower may, at any time, prepay all or any part of the unpaid balance to become payable under any note or installment contract. If the borrower pays the time balance in full, before maturity, or accelerates the monthly or other periodic installments, the licensee shall refund to him a portion of the interest. The borrower shall receive for such anticipation of payments a refund in an amount which shall represent at least as great a proportion of the interest as the sum of the periodic time balances after the month in which prepayment is made to the extent of the accelerated installments, bears to the sum of all the periodic time balances under the

- schedule of payments in the original note or installment investment certificate; provided however, that no refund need be paid on the service charge; and provided that if the amount of the refund is less than one (1) dollar no refund need be made, and that no refund for accelerated payments need be made on any installment payment made less than thirty-one (31) days prior to the due date of said installment.
- 1 Existing Industrial Loan Companies. A corporation, or-2 ganized under the laws of the state of Iowa shall be issued a license 3 hereunder by the auditor for each established office in this state which on the date this Act becomes effective was engaged in the business of making loans under the provisions of section four hundred twenty-5 nine point eleven (429.11) of the Code; provided such corporation has 6 received from the auditor an auditor's certificate as required by section 8 four hundred twenty-nine point thirteen (429.13) of the Code. The license referred to in this section shall be issued for each such estab-9 lished office upon the effective date of this Act, without the notice, 10 investigation, hearing and findings required by sections nine (9), ten 11 12 (10) and eleven (11) of this Act. On or before January 1, 1966, all 13 existing industrial loan companies shall have the capital and surplus required by section eight (8) of this Act to be eligible for subsequent 14 15 licensing.
- SEC. 28. Penalty. If any officer, director or agent of any corporation engaged in the business of operating an industrial loan company 3 shall violate any of the provisions of this Act; or if any person individually or as a partner, or officer, director or agent of any corporation 4 shall engage in the business of operating an industrial loan company 5 without obtaining the license required by section three (3) of this Act, 7 he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred (500) dollars or 8 by imprisonment in the county jail for not more than six (6) months, 9 or by both such fine and imprisonment. 10
 - SEC. 29. Rules and Regulations. The auditor is hereby authorized and empowered to make such reasonable and relevant rules and regulations, not inconsistent herewith, as may be necessary for the enforcement of the provisions of this Act.
 - SEC. 30. Repeal. Sections four hundred twenty-nine point eleven (429.11), four hundred twenty-nine point twelve (429.12) and four hundred twenty-nine point thirteen (429.13), Code 1962, are hereby repealed.
 - SEC. 31. Separability. If any provision, clause or phrase of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this Act which can be given effect without the invalid provisions or application, and to this end the provisions of this Act are declared to be separable.
 - SEC. 32. This Act being deemed of immediate importance shall be in full force and effect from and after its publication in The Telegraph-

3 Herald, a newspaper published at Dubuque, Iowa, and in The Daily 4 Times, a newspaper published at Davenport, Iowa.

Approved May 20, 1965.

I hereby certify as an amendment to the foregoing certification that the correct names of the newspapers designated to publish Senate File 132, are the Times-Democrat, Davenport, Iowa, and The Telegraph-Herald, Dubuque, Iowa.

GARY L. CAMERON, Secretary of State.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Act, Senate File 132, was published in the Times-Democrat, Davenport, Iowa, May 25, 1965, and in The Telegraph-Herald, Dubuque, Iowa, May 27, 1965.

GARY L. CAMERON, Secretary of State.

CHAPTER 413

UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE

S. F. 227

AN ACT to be known as the Uniform Commercial Code, relating to certain commercial transactions in or regarding personal property and contracts and other documents concerning them, including sales, commercial paper, bank deposits and collections, letters of credit, bulk transfers, warehouse receipts, bills of lading, other documents of title, investment securities, and secured transactions, including certain sales of accounts, chattel paper, and contract rights; providing for public notice to third parties in certain circumstances; regulating procedure, evidence and damages in certain court actions involving such transactions, contracts or documents; to make uniform the law with respect thereto; and repealing inconsistent legislation

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

ARTICLE 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

PART 1

SHORT TITLE, CONSTRUCTION, APPLICATION AND SUBJECT MATTER OF THE ACT

- 1 SEC. 1101. Short title. This Act shall be known and may be cited 2 as Uniform Commercial Code.
- 1 SEC. 1102. Purposes—rules of construction—variation by agree-2 ment.
- 3 1. This Act shall be liberally construed and applied to promote its underlying purposes and policies.

2. Underlying purposes and policies of this Act are

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- a. to simplify, clarify and modernize the law governing commercial
 transactions;
- b. to permit the continued expansion of commercial practices
 through custom, usage and agreement of the parties;
 - c. to make uniform the law among the various jurisdictions.
- 3. The effect of provisions of this Act may be varied by agreement,